(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a non-statutory National Commission for Youth has already been set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Shri Balbir K. Punj, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) *w.e.f.* 15th March, 2002. The Commission has five members and one Member Secretary apart from its Chairman. The Commission is to study the areas of concern for the youth of the country (problems faced/likely to be faced by them), with particular focus on the problem of youth unemployment, suggest better implementation and coordination of the existing youth related schemes by various agencies while recommending new programmes and policies and suggest measures for the implementation of the Plan of Action of the new National Youth Polilcy.

(c) Does not arise.

Measures for Asian Games 2006

†5254. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India failed to get its expected position in Asian Games concluded recently in Busan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take some measures for better performance of India in Asian Games to be held in the year 2006; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The preparation for major multi-disciplinary events, including Asian Games 2006, is an on-going process. However, in the present sports management set up - at the international, as well as, the national level - promotion of sports, largely, falls in the domain of the Sports Federations.

In so far as Government of India is concerned, in order to prepare the Indian teams for participation in major international events, such as,

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and Olympic Games, Long Term Development Plans (LTDP) are finalized in consultation with concerned National Sports Federations, former-international sportspersons and training method experts. Besides that, the probables are provided with required scientific and equipment support, coaching by Indian and Foreign coaches in Coaching Camps and assistance to participate in international tournaments.

Under the Scheme of Assistance to Promising Sports persons and Supporting Personnel, assistance is provided to promising sportspersons for training and participation in tournaments abroad, for purchase of equipment for scientific support and for training and participation in tournaments in the country. The assistance given under this Scheme is aimed at winning medals in major multi disciplinary events.

Humiliation of Sunita Rani

5255. SHRI B. J. PANDA :
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to Sunita Rani's tale of vow "who will make up for all the humiliation" appeared in the media, recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that all Government agencies had deserted her in the need of the hour and treated her as an outcast at every place in our country, as claimed by her;

(c) whether this does not cast a devastating demoralization effect on our budding sports persons, as our officials leave the needy in lurch to face all kinds of humiliation and abuses from all corners; and

(d) how Government propose to tackle such a situation to avoid demoralization of sports persons ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIK RAM VERMA) : (a) to (d) Ms. Sunita Rani, athlete tested positive for 'Nandrolone' during the Busan Asian Games, 2002. As a result, 1 gold and 1 bronze medal won by her during the Games were taken back from her. Now Ms. Sunita Rani has been cleared of all the charges by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and both the medals have been restored to her. All this could be possible because of the initiative taken by the Amateur Athletic Federation of India (AAFI) who